Development have already released additional 5 lakhs MT of rice to the State under the Special Component of Sampoorna Grameen Rozgar Yojana (SGRY) during the year 2002-03, as the Food for Work Programme has come to an end on 31-3-2002.

Request for extension of Food for Work Programme

2601. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Andhra Pradesh have requested the Central Government to extend the Food for Work Programme upto 15th June, 2002;

(b) if so, whether Government are inclined to accede to this request from the Andhra Pradesh Government; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. VENKAIAH NAIDU): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c) As decided in the meeting of the Group of Ministers (GOM) held on 14th March, 2002, the Food for Work Programme has ended on 31st March, 2002. With effect from 1.4.2002, foodgrains will be provided to districts affected by natural calamities under a special component within the Sampoorna Gramin Rozgar Yojana (SGRY).

Primary objectives of SIRDs

2602. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the primary objectives of the State Institutes of Rural Development (SIRDs);

(b) the details of SIRDs in operation in Jharkhand State, location-wise;

(c) the fund allocated by Government to each of these SIRDs; and

(d) the achievements made by these SIRDs during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANNASAHEB M.K. PATIL): (a) The primary objective of State Institutes of Rural Development (SIRDs) is to impart training to rural development functionaries and elected representatives, including the elected representatives of Panchayati Raj Institutions.

(b) The Bihar Institute of Rural Development prior to the creation of Jharkhand State, which is located at Hehal, Ranchi has now become the State Institute of Rural Development of the newly created State of Jharkhand.

(c) and (d) The Ministry of Rural Development has a scheme captioned "Strengthening/Establishment of State Institute of Rural Development (SIRD)" under which funds are provided to States based on the eligible proposals received from them for recurring and non-recurring requirements of the Institutes. No proposal was received from the SIRD, Ranchi through the State Government during the last three years in this regard. The following achievements have been reported by this SIRD in terms of training programmes and persons trained in the last three years:

Year	Number of Training Programmes conducted	Number of persons trained
1999-2000	25	846
2000-2001	9	392
2001-2002	16	370

Recommendation of Central team to study implementation of Food for Work programme in A.P.

2603. SHRI YADLAPATI VENKAT RAO: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Central team visited Andhra Pradesh to study the implementation of the Food for Work programme;

(b) if so, the recommendations made by the Team; and